


Alaska Liaison

The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA) <http://www.apiai.org> hired Malinda Chase to serve as the Tribal Resilience Liaison at the Alaska Climate Science Center consortium member, the University of Alaska - Anchorage. Malinda is an enrolled tribal member of Anvik, a Deg Hit'an Athabascan village, located in Alaska's interior region, at the confluence of the Yukon and Anvik Rivers. Malinda holds a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Wellesley College and a master's degree in Cross-Cultural Studies from the UA-Fairbanks. Her experience is in community planning, non-profit management, Native language revitalization, post-secondary distance education and Alaska Native education. More recently, Malinda's focus is on tribal resilience education that aims to engage the AK Native community in her work with the Association of Interior Native Educators. Malinda loves cutting and preserving salmon and kayaking, especially with her daughter.

Position Highlights
Provide outreach and improve the capacity of Alaskan tribes to prepare for and respond to climate impacts. Identify needed information and resources for local climate education, awareness, decision-making and planning.



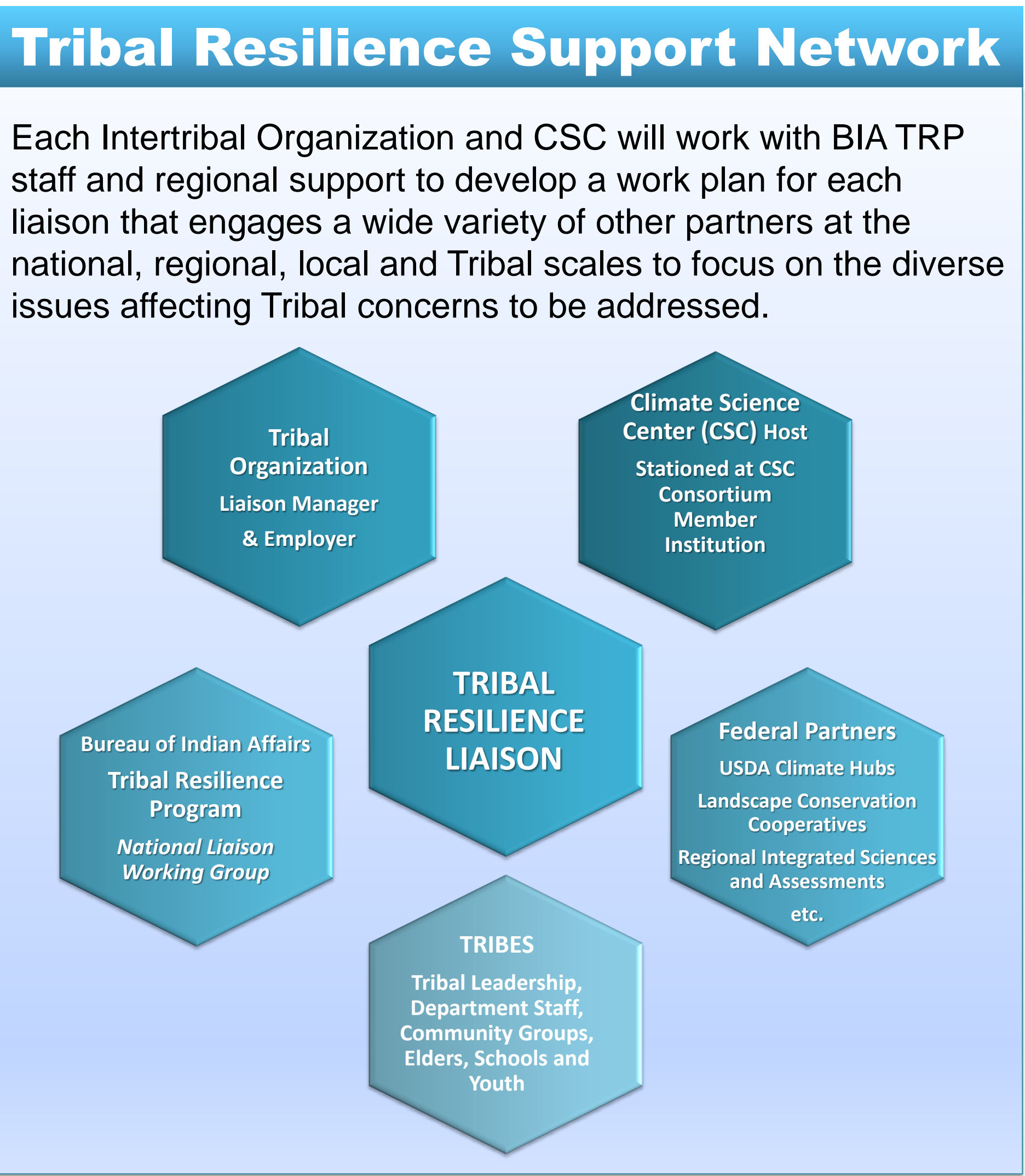
Aleutian Pribilof ISLANDS ASSOCIATION

INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Resilience Program is coordinating with US Geological Survey (USGS) and select intertribal organizations to station tribal resilience liaisons across the Department of Interior (DOI) Climate Science Centers (CSCs). The liaisons will help tribal communities respond to climate change by providing:

- ✓ extension efforts to help tribes access information, data, and expertise at the CSCs, through the BIA TRP, from other federal agencies and programs and partnering institutions,.
- ✓ facilitate research focusing on Traditional Knowledges integration with Western Science, and
- ✓ coordinate forums and information exchange.

These efforts are designed to aid understanding, improve communication, and better meet the needs of tribes through partnerships to promote more resilient tribal communities facing increasing challenges to traditional lifeways. Below are highlights of the tribal resilience liaisons by region and information on the intertribal organizations that are partnering with BIA and USGS to hire and support the liaisons, while enhancing intertribal capacity to ensure Tribal ecosystems are built to lead in each of the CSC Regions (see map).



Southwest Liaison

The American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) <http://www.aihec.org> hired Holly Barton as the Tribal Resilience Liaison to work with tribes on adaptation efforts within the Southwest Climate Science Center service area (AZ, CA, NV, UT). She is Ma'ii deeshgiizhinii (Coyote Pass People clan), born for Tabaaaha (Water's Edge clan). Her maternal grandfather is Tachii'nii (Red Running into the Water clan) and her paternal grandfather is Todich'ii'nii (Bitter Water Clan). She is a member of the Navajo Nation from Dilkon, Arizona. Prior to this position, she was the Ecologist for the Tohono O'odham Nation and currently serves on the Dilkon Community Land Use Planning Committee. Holly has a Bachelor of Science in Sustainability from Arizona State University and will be pursuing a Masters in Environmental Planning & GeoDesign at the University of Arizona - Tuscon.


Position Highlights
Holly fosters awareness within Tribal communities of climate threats and response options. Facilitate and assist with climate change response planning and research development with CSCs that incorporates Traditional Ecological Knowledge. Provide resources and support to Tribes and groups engaged in climate monitoring, studies, and adaptation activities. Coordinate national working group of AIHEC / TCU and SW CSC partners.



Northwest Liaison

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) <http://atnitribes.org> hired Chas Jones as the Tribal Resilience Liaison for the Northwest Climate Science Center in Corvallis, OR. Chas is an interdisciplinary expert in the dynamic interactions between climate, water, ecology, and society. He has a Ph.D. in Hydrology from the U of Alaska, where he incorporated traditional knowledge and science to assess exposure of indigenous people to the impacts of climate change. His postdoc research at EPA assesses hydrologic vulnerability to climate across the U.S. Chas also has a M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy and a B.S. in Biology from Northern Arizona University, studying ecological impacts of dams. Chas has a record of success in writing grants and technical writing – useful skills as the NW Tribal Liaison.

Position Highlights
Chas provides education and training to support teams of tribal leaders, climate change coordinators, planners, and program managers to build skills, gather information, and develop local tribal plans, policies, and strategies to address climate change.




Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI)

North Central No Liaison Yet

The North Central Liaison is expected to be hired later in 2017 and stationed at the North Central Climate Science Center in Fort Collins, CO and will serve tribes and tribal climate concerns in MT, KS WY, CO, ND, SD, and NB.

Stay tuned for updates...

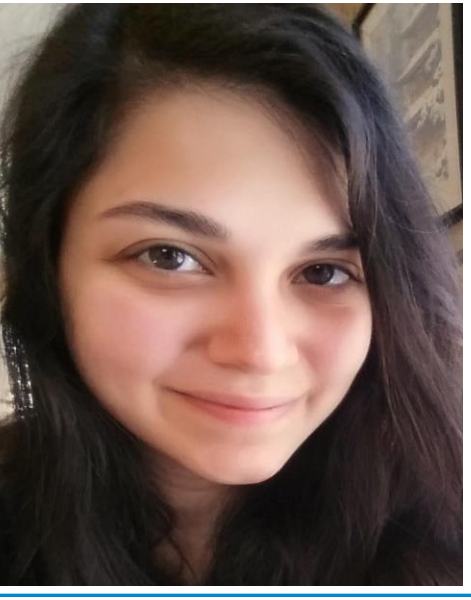
Position Highlights
Stay tuned!



Midwest Liaison

The College of Menominee Nation Sustainability Development Institute (CMN SDI) - <http://sustainabledevelopmentinstitute.org> hired Sara Smith as the Tribal Resilience Liaison for the Midwestern Portion of the Northeast Climate Science Center (NE CSC). The position will be stationed at the US Forest Service's Northern Forest Research Station on the University of Minnesota campus in St. Paul, Minnesota. Sara is a direct descendant of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and holds a B.S. in Biology (Ecology and Conservation) and First Nation Studies from the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay and a M.S. in Ecology from the State University of New York - College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Her experience is in research and development, natural resources, ecology, Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), and working with indigenous communities in the Midwest. Sara's interests entail forest ecology and dynamics, bridging the gap between science and indigenous knowledge, climate resilience education, and community outreach.

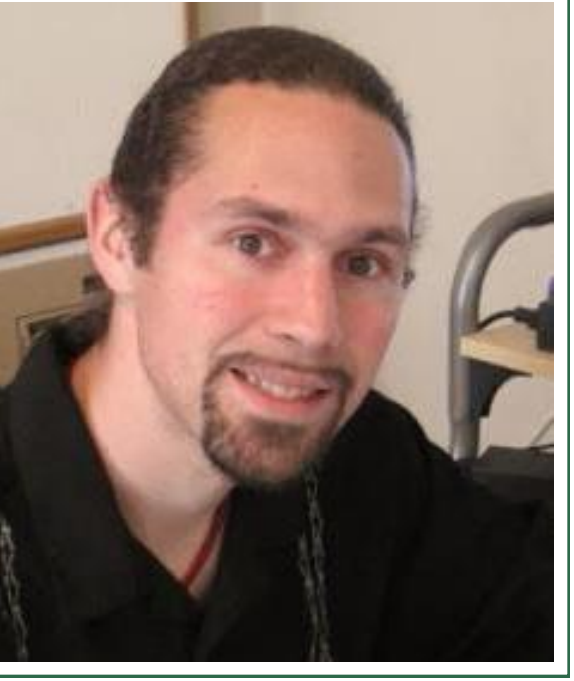
Position Highlights
Sara serves as a direct liaison between Tribes in the Midwest and climate researchers to improve outreach, build capacity, and identify and address research gaps in climate and natural and cultural resources disciplines to guide strategic adaptive planning and implementation of tribal resiliency projects.



Eastern Liaison

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) <http://www.usetinc.org> hired Casey Thornbrugh as the Eastern Tribal Resilience Liaison. He will be based at the Northeast Climate Science Center (NE CSC) at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. As shown in the map below, he will serve most Tribes within the BIA Eastern Region, composed of NE CSC states along the Eastern seaboard that are not part of the Midwest Liaisons jurisdiction, as well as, most states in the Southeast CSC. Casey is a citizen of Mashpee Wampanoag, and served as the director of the Mashpee Wampanoag Natural Resources Department. Casey completed his PhD in Geography in 2013 at University of Arizona. His dissertation focused on climate change with special emphases on Tribal Nations, Climate Education, and Climate-Related Research with Indigenous Communities. He has 8 years of experience working with Tohono O'odham Community College, teaching climate change courses and directing sustainability programs.


Position Highlights
Casey serves as a technical expert on climate change issues, resource vulnerabilities, and climate adaptation actions to support Tribal Nations throughout the USET region, which mostly overlaps the BIA Eastern region. Since this area includes both the eastern portion of the NE CSC and most of the SE CSC, he will work closely with both CSCs to coordinate efforts with area Tribes.



South Central Liaison

April Taylor is a Sustainability Scientist with the Chickasaw Nation office at the South Central Climate Science Center (SC-CSC) in Norman, OK. April holds a BS in Marine Science from Texas A&M University and a Masters in Earth and Environmental Resource Management from the University of South Carolina. As a Chickasaw citizen with a family tradition of raising Native American grafted pecan trees, she is inspired by helping Tribes manage and plan for the many environmental impacts of climate variability and change and other resilience issues.

Position Highlights
April facilitates relationships between the 68 tribes and climate scientists in OK, NM, TX, and LA. Work with Tribal education programs to develop opportunities for tribal students in STEM fields. She communicates with tribal organizations: Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (OTCAC), Tribal Environmental Coalition of Oklahoma (TECO), Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (ITEC), American Indian Alaskan Native Climate Change Working Group (AIANCCWG), and Five Civilized Tribes - Inter Tribal Council - Environmental Protection Committee, among many others.



South Central Liaison (New Mexico)

Atherton ("Atty") Phleger serves the NM state sub-region of the SC CSC, hired by the University of Oklahoma. Prior to joining the South Central CSC, Atty worked for a native-owned consultancy and nonprofit, where typical projects included creating culturally-responsive science curriculum, using collaborative approaches to design tribal hydraulic fracturing regulations, determining new methods for leveraging tribal resources and legislation, and finding funding opportunities for tribal projects. In this role, Atherton successfully submitted grants to fund a number of community-led projects in New Mexico tribal communities, as well as laid the research groundwork for intertribal organizations concerned with water rights, climate change, and energy resources. Atherton graduated as Valedictorian of the English department at the University of Colorado.

Position Highlights
Atherton is responsible for managing South Central CSC's tribal engagement projects in New Mexico. In this role, Atherton will collaborate with tribal stakeholders to develop and deliver capacity-building trainings and other educational workshops, while leveraging the resources of the University of New Mexico to provide technical assistance and relevant data to tribes in their pursuit of climate vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, and to serve as a representative of the SC CSC at workshops, conferences, and meetings.



